

Data Acceptability Criteria for Analysis of Benthic Invertebrates

QA Procedure	Parameter	Frequency	Criterion	Corrective Action
Re-examination of sample (sorting, counting, identification)	Accuracy	1 per 10 benthic invertebrate samples	≤5% difference	Resolve differences in identification and enumeration.
	Precision		≤5% difference	
Assess percent of data successfully collected	Data Completeness	1 per planned sample event	100%	Reschedule sample events as necessary or appropriate.

Benthic Invertebrates Processing and Analysis: Accuracy assessment

Accuracy of identifications and precision of enumeration of benthic invertebrate collections are assessed by re-analysis of samples at the rate of one for every ten samples analyzed. This consists of complete re-examination of the organisms in the archived original sample, including remnants from the sorting process. If any additional organisms are identified in the "remnant" fraction of the archived sample, the numbers of taxa and organisms are recorded. The total number of organisms and enumeration of individual taxa for the re-examined sample should be within 5% of the original total. Discrepancies in taxonomic identification or enumeration should be resolved as soon as possible.